

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 INR-05 CIAE-00 /028 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/WE:AHUGHES:JL
APPROVED BY EUR/WE:EMROWELL
INR - AGAYLOR-RYAN (SUBS)
-----101270 092348Z /66

P 092149Z JAN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 005274

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: SP, PINT, PINR

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON THE SPANISH
SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

1. GIVEN IMPORTANCE OF PSOE, WASHINGTON INTELLIGENCE
COMMUNITY IS DOING IN-DEPTH ANALYSIS OF THE PARTY. WOULD
APPRECIATE RECEIVING BY JANUARY 18 ANY INFORMATION EMBASSY
CAN PROVIDE ON THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.WHERE RELEVANT
CURRENT INFORMATION HAS ALREADY BEEN PROVIDED PLEASE CITE
THE MESSAGE.

2. CONSTITUENCY: ARE THERE AVAILABLE ANY ANALYSES OF THE
JUNE ELECTION RETURNS SHOWING THE MAKEUP OF PSOE VOTERS?
COULD THE EMBASSY OBTAIN A COPY OF THE STUDY MENTIONED
BY SOLANA OR ANY SIMILAR STUDIES INITIATED BY OTHER PARTIES
OR OTHER GROUPS?

3. DECISION MAKING: WHAT EVOLUTION IS THERE LIKELY TO BE
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IN THE COLLEGIAL STYLE OF LEADERSHIP? WHAT IS THE ROLE
OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN DECISION MAKING? DO CERTAIN
MEMBERS DOMINATE PROCEEDINGS? WE NOTE THAT THE EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE WENT BACK TO THE FEDERAL COMMITTEE RECENTLY

(MADRID 9547, DEC. 2 '77) TO GET A NEW MANDATE TO NEGOTIATE
ON THE SPANISH CONSTITUTION, WHICH WAS GRANTED. HOW

IMPORTANT IS THE FEDERAL COMMITTEE? IN A TIGHT SITUATION WOULD THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACT ON ITS OWN OR GO BEYOND ITS MANDATE? DOES THE FEDERAL COMMITTEE HAVE THE SAME IDEOLOGICAL MAKEUP AS THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE?

4. THE LEFTISTS: REPORTING HAS INDICATED THAT ALFONSO GUERRA AND LUIS GOMEZ LLORENTE ARE THE LEADING LEFTISTS ON THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, WITH GUERRA USUALLY LISTED AS NUMBER 2 AND GOMEZ LISTED AS NUMBER 4. DOES THIS RANKING GIVE THEM ANY ADVANTAGE? IF FELIPE GONZALEZ WERE INCAPACITATED, WHAT WOULD BE THE LEADERSHIP SUCCESSION? HOW MANY OTHER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS ARE CONSIDERED LEFTISTS? TO WHAT EXTENT DO THEY ACQUIESCE IN THE PARTY DECISIONS TO PURSUE MODERATE POLICIES? DID THEY APPROVE THE PSOE SIGNING THE MONCLOA PACT? AS THE PSOE COOPERATES WITH THE GOVERNMENT, ARE THEY LIKELY TO BECOME FRUSTRATED OR ENRAGED? WHAT ARE THEY LIKELY TO DO IF THEY ARE CONTINUALLY OUTVOTED?

EARLIER REPORTING INDICATED THAT THE PARTY BASE WAS MORE RADICAL THAN THE PARTY LEADERSHIP? IS THIS STILL TRUE? WHAT IS THE RADICAL BASE LIKELY TO DO IF IT BECOMES FRUSTRATED WITH THE MODERATE LEADERSHIP AND POLICIES?

5. PARTY PROGRAM: IS THE PSOE LIKELY TO CONTINUE TO PLAY DOWN PARTY IDEOLOGY AS IT DID IN THE ELECTION LAST JUNE? CONFIDENTIAL

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HOW MUCH OF THE PROGRAM RATIFIED AT THE LAST PARTY CONGRESS IS LIKELY TO BE STRESSED?

6. PARTY ORGANIZATION: HOW IS ORGANIZATION OF THE PARTY PROGRESSING AS IT ADJUSTS TO LEGALITY? IS THERE ANY PARTY ORGANIZATION BELOW THE PROVINCIAL FEDERATION LEVEL? HOW FAST AND IN WHAT AREAS IS PSOE MEMBERSHIP GROWING? WE NOTE A RECENT PSOE MEMBERSHIP CLAIM OF 800,000 MEMBERS. WHAT IS YOUR LATEST GUESSTIMATE? DOES THE PARTY HAVE A MEMBERSHIP GOAL?

7. RELATIONS WITH THE UGT: HOW IMPORTANT IS THE UGT TO THE PSOE IN ELECTORAL TERMS FOR THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS? WOULD A POOR UGT SHOWING IN THE COMING PLANT LEVEL TRADE UNION ELECTIONS HURT THE PSOE IN THE MUNICIPALS? HOW MUCH CONTROL DOES THE PSOE HAVE OVER THE UGT AND HOW MUCH CONTROL DOES THE UGT HAVE OVER ITS MEMBERS? WILL THE UGT BE ABLE TO GET ITS MEMBERS TO SUPPORT WAGE TERMS OF THE MONCLOA PACT?

8. RELATIONS WITH THE PCE: WITH THE PSOE AND PCE COMPETING FOR SOME OF THE SAME ELECTORATE, WHAT IMPACT WILL THE

MODERATE COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE THE PCE IS TAKING WITH THE GOVERNMENT AND BUSINESS HAVE ON PSOE POLICY?

9. RELATIONS WITH THE GOVERNMENT: WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT HOW SUAREZ GOT THE PSOE TO SIGN THE MONCLOA ACCORDS. HOW HARD DID THE PSOE HAVE TO PUSH TO GET SOME OF ITS ECONOMIC GOALS IN THE PACT? WILL THE PSOE CONTINUE TO COOPERATE WITH SUAREZ AND THE UCD IN IMPLEMENTATION AND IN OTHER LEGISLATION? HOW MUCH WILL ELECTORAL COMPETITION BETWEEN UCD AND PSOE AFFECT PSOE RELATIONS WITH THE SUAREZ GOVERNMENT?

10. RELATIONS WITH FOREIGN SOCIALIST PARTIES: HOW MUCH AID IS THE PSOE RECEIVING FROM FRATERNAL PARTIES? WILL
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FOREIGN PARTIES, ESPECIALLY THE SPD, BE ABLE TO INFLUENCE PSOE IN POLICY MATTERS, SUCH AS JOINING NATO?

11. EMBASSY COMMENTS WHICH WOULD HELP US EVALUATE THE IMPORTANCE OF PSOE IN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE, AND EMBASSY JUDGMENT ON PSOE CHANCES OF COMING TO POWER IN NEAR OR LONGER TERM WOULD BE MOST WELCOME. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS, POLITICAL PARTIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE005274
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: AHUGHES:JL
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X3
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780013-1143
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780184/aaaactca.tel
Line Count: 143
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 82b86de5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3805783
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON THE SPANISH SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY
TAGS: PINT, PINR, SP, PSOE
To: MADRID
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/82b86de5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014